### Exhibit 4

**Boines Transcript Pages** 

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

SOUTHERN DIVISION

SHAMARA BOINES,

Plaintiff,

vs

Case No. 2:21-cv-13010-GCS-KGA Hon. George Caram Steeh Mag. Kimberly G. Altman

JARS HOLDINGS, LLC, d/b/a JARS CANNABIS and RAYMOND ABRO, Jointly and severally,

Defendants.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF SHAMARA BOINES, taken on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 12900 Hall Road, Suite 350, Sterling Heights, Michigan, at 10:00 a.m., pursuant to Notice.

Reported by DEBORAH LINEHAN, CER 7251

Fortz Legal Support www.FortzLegal.com

844.730.4066

FORTZ Legal

Job 20530 26..29

Page 29

Page 26

- 1 What -- we're going to give you this work. You're
- 2 going to be on call available for us to do X number of
- 3 hours a week --
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q -- here's what we're going to pay you.
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Okay. It wasn't for a fixed period of time that you --
- 8 A No.
- 9 Q -- okay. How about with LegalEase, did you have a
- 10 contract with them?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And then was that for full-time work?
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q It was just on an as needed?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Okay. The -- did you provide -- or did you receive any
- 17 health or other benefits with Consilio?
- 18 A I do not have health benefits with Consilio. No.
- 19 Q Any other benefits besides the just hourly pay?
- 20 A I have a 401(k) with them. I just started putting the
- 21 bare minimum in with that. Yes.
- 22 Q What's the bare minimum?
- 23 A I don't know. It was just the minimum that they set,
- 24 and if you didn't object to it they just automatically
- 25 enrolled you into it and started doing it, and I didn't

- Page 28 1 Q These contract attorneys, do you have any benefits when
- 2 you work for any of them?
- 3 A No.
- 4 Q Are any office expenses, paper, or anything like that
- 5 covered when you're working for any of these attorneys?
- 6 A No.
- 7 Q How about with Consilio?
- 8 A No.
- 9 Q LegalEase?
- 10 A No.
- 11 Q So prior to doing -- or even I guess in the middle of
- doing this contract type work you took a job with JARS,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q And what was the time frame that you were employed
- 16 there?
- 17 A For JARS?
- 18 Q Yep.
- 19 A March to July. March 2020 to July 2020.
- 20 Q Okay. Before March of 2020, what were you doing for
- 21 work?
- 22 A I was not working before March 2020.
- 23 Q When was the last time that you were working before
- 24 March of 2020?
- 25 A It was -- I want to say it was October of 2019 I was

Page 27

- 1 object to it. I just left it.
- 2 Q Did they just start the 401(k) program?
- 3 A I think it's about a month or a couple months ago. It
- 4 hasn't been very long.
- 5 Q Okay.
- 6 A So it's not very -- I think the last I looked it was
- 7 like a couple hundred dollars in there.
- 8 Q So it's not a matter of you are eligible or not
- 9 eligible at a certain date; it's -- it's when they
- 10 actually started offering that as a -- as a benefit?
- 11 A It was eligible at a certain date, and then you had to
- 12 object to it. I believe that's how it went and you
- 13 either said yes or no, and if you said no they just
- 14 automatically put the minimum of what they suggested to
- 15 put in there.
- 16 Q Okay. Any other benefits with Consilio?
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q Do you get vacation days?
- 19 A Sick days. I believe it is sick days, yes.
- 20 Q How many?
- 21 A I'm not sure of the amount. I think it's based on how
- 22 much work you do with them.
- 23 Q Okay. How about with LegalEase? Did you receive any
- 24 benefits when you were working with them?
- 25 A No.

- 1 working.
- 2 Q What were you doing?
- 3 A I was working for PharmaCo.
- 4 Q And what did you do for PharmaCo?
- 5 A I was a compliance specialist.
- 6 Q And how long did you work there?
- 7 A I worked there from -- I want to say it was May, if I
- 8 recall, of 2019 to October of 2019.
- 9 Q Okay. And PharmaCo I have in your resume you worked
- 10 at -- out of a Southfield office; is that right?
- 11 A It was originally the Farmington office. While the
- 12 Southfield office was being built, the Southfield
- 13 office became the corporate office.
- 14 Q And what was in Farmington? Where were you working
- 15 then?
- 16 A It was just the office they rented out at that time.
- 17 Q Okay. So not like a store location or anything like
- 18 that?
- 19 A No. It just was a corporate office space that they
- 20 rented -- they shared with another person -- another
- 21 company.
- 22 Q Okay. As a compliance officer at PharmaCo, what did
- you do day-to-day?
- 24 A It varied. I did the applications for new facilities.
- 25 I submitted those for municipal and for LARA for the

Job 20530 30..33

		Page 30
1		State of Michigan. So all of the documentation needed
2		if a new facility was going to be opened, a
3		created any kind of support documentation such as
4		security manuals or security profiles that went with
5		that application. I created
6	Q	With what application?
7	Α	state and local you have to have an application to
8		open a facility, and with the State of Michigan you
9		need an application process, and certain documentation
10		must be provided in order for them to approve it.
11	Q	Okay. So so your work as a compliance officer is
12		with respect to the opening of cannabis facilities for
13		PharmaCo; is that right?
14	Α	For the most part, yes. There were other things that I
15		had to do.
16	Q	Okay. What else?
17	Α	I had to create policies and procedures for the
18		facilities.
19	Q	What does that mean?
20	Α	The facilities needed protocol on circumstances such as
21		opening the facility, what to do to handle cash
22		handling matters, balancing drawers at the end of the
23		day, any kind of incident reports or security
24		protocols, those are things that I wrote policies and
25		procedures and trained on.

		Page 32
1	Α	Let's see, I have to think. How much product they can
2		keep in the facilities, how to input the product in the
3		database, policies as far as eating and drinking around
4		the product, how the product had to be safeguarded, how
5		the product needed to be visible in front of cameras,
6		employee relations when it came to handling the
7		product. Did you want me to continue?
8	Q	Yep.
9	Α	Okay. The as far as security protocols, having the
10		security team there when product was coming in and out,
11		any kind of compliance issues that occurred, the
12		process and procedure that the company itself wanted
13		them to do to handle any kind of compliance issues that
14		might occur.
15	Q	So if there's a state regulatory agency compliance
16		issue
17	Α	Yes.
18	Q	you would get involved?
19	Α	Yes.
20		(Mr. Scott left the conference
21		room at 10:39 a.m.)
22	В	Y MS. BADALAMENTI:
23	Q	Okay. So that's different than opening. So let's talk
24		about that.
25		What would your involvement be?

		Page 31
1	Q	
2		for the opening of the facility?
3	Α	Some of them are, yes.
4	Q	Okay. And then you said I think you trained on them.
5		So once the a new store location opened you would
6		actually be responsible for training the employees?
7	Α	I would train the manager. I would start with the
8		manager first, and then we would the manager can
9		roll that out to the employees.
10	Q	Okay. So you only train managers?
11	Α	Majority of the time, yes.
12	Q	All right. So would you have to train a manager on
13		counting drawers and things like that, or what would
14		you be training them on?
15	Α	Procedures and policies. MRA policies that have to be
16		completed inside of the facilities to make sure that we
17		are compliant. Those are things that we would train
18		on. Anything dealing with human resource stuff I would
19		work with a human resource person at the time, if
20		needed. Anything dealing with compliance and
21		regulatory, I tried to keep the managers up to date in
22		case there was any kind of surprise visits.
23	Q	Okay. So let me break that down. The MRA policies
24		that you would train the manager on would include what?

		Page 33
1	Α	For what?
2	Q	If there's a state regulatory issue with a store, what
3		happens?
4	Α	They would call me
5	Q	The store manager?
6	Α	the store manager or it could be an employee that's
7		there and the store manager is not there, and I would
8		handle the situation accordingly. It just depends on
9		what the circumstance was. It could be a question.
10		Rather it's a patient that had an issue as far as
11		the amount of marijuana they wanted to purchase and
12		there's a discrepancy with the computer, then I would
13		have to either call LARA or do the research to figure
14		out how to solve the problem.
15		It could be a marketing issue. They could have
16		put a sign up that a compliance person for the state
17		saw driving by and said you need to take it down. So
18		it could be something of a matter of solving that
19		issue. It could be something they posted on social
20		media that wasn't compliant with state regulations,
21		then I would have to troubleshoot that. It just
22		depends. Every day was a different thing.
23	Q	Okay. You also said that you would work with the HR

person. Who was the HR person at PharmaCo when --

Give me some examples.

25

24

25

you --

Job 20530 34..37

,	
Page 34	Page 36
1 A Katrina Cotton.	1 relevant.
2 Q there?	2 MS. BRAULT: you're needing to know that
3 Katrina with a K?	3 that
4 A Yes.	4 MS. BADALAMENTI: Well, I want to know why
5 Q And what's the last name?	5 she resigned. I want to know the circumstances of her
6 A C-O-T-T-O-N. Katrina Cotton.	6 resignation. She worked there for about six months
7 Q Just like it sounds.	7 just like she did for us so I obviously am entitled to
8 A Yes.	8 know. It's the same industry. She's working in the
9 Q Okay. What was Katrina the HR manager?	9 same type of position, and her reasons that led to a
10 A Yes.	10 six-month-end resignation are obviously going to be
11 Q Okay. And that was the whole time that you were there?	11 relevant.
12 A Yes.	12 MS. BRAULT: I don't know that that's true.
13 Q And what did you work with Katrina on?	13 I'm not sure how it's relevant to claims subsequent
14 A I worked with her on the employee handbook, any	14 employee.
15 employee relations that would occur dealing with the	15 MS. BADALAMENTI: So we'll pause then and
16 hiring or terminating of any kind of employee to make	16 call the Court.
17 sure that if there was an issue as far as the employee	17 MS. BRAULT: Sure.
18 being terminated because of, you know, something that	18 MS. BADALAMENTI: Okay. Let's do that.
19 went against state regulations that they're not	19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record at 10:42.
20 supposed to do within the facility, what's the step	20 (Break in proceeding taken from
21 next that we have to handle. I worked with her on	21 10:42 a.m. to 10:53 a.m.)
22 training employees, background checks for employees	22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record
23 that started to work for the facility which we had to	23 at 10:53 a.m.
24 have, any kind of requirements for hiring new employees	24 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
25 to make sure that they were eligible to work.	25 Q So I don't remember my last question verbatim.
20 to make sure that they were engine to work.	25 Q 50 r don't remember my last question verbatim.
Page 35	Page 37
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Job 20530 38..41

Page 40

Page 41

			Page 38
1	THE VIDEOGRAPHER:	We are back on	the record

- 2 at 10:57.
- 3 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
- 4 Q Okay. So as I understand there was an off-the-record
- 5 discussion, and you are now prepared to tell me whether
- 6 or not there were any -- whether or not you were ever
- 7 counseled or disciplined in the course of your
- 8 employment at PharmaCo?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q And were you?
- 11 A I was never counseled or disciplined.
- 12 Q Were you ever written up?
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q Do you have a personnel file there at PharmaCo?
- 15 A No.
- 16 Q Have you ever requested a copy of your personnel file?
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q After your employment at PharmaCo, what did you do for
- 19 that six month time period before you took a job at
- 20 JARS?
- 21 A After?
- 22 Q Yep.
- 23 A It was in six months.
- 24 Q I thought it was October through March.
- 25 A That's not six months.

- 1 Q -- that you're not telling me here?
- 2 A Bare minimum.
- 3 Q What did you tell unemployment?
- 4 A I can't discuss that because that would go into the
- 5 agreement.
- 6 Q But you told already a public agency. So what -- my
- 7 question is not what's in the agreement. My question
- 8 is what did you tell the public agency in order to
- 9 secure unemployment benefits?
- 10 A I don't know -- I can't tell you that. I don't know.
- 11 Q You don't know or you can't tell me?
- 12 A I don't recall.
- 13 Q Okay. So didn't you fill out unemployment
- 14 applications --
- 15 A Uh-huh.
- 16 Q -- to receive unemployment benefits?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 (Exhibit 1 marked for identification)
- 19 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
- 20 Q Okay. I've marked as Exhibit 1 a Monetary
- 21 Determination from the State of Michigan, Department of
- 22 LARA.
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q Sorry, the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity
- 25 Unemployment Insurance Agency.

Page 39

- 1 Q Sorry. I did law school because I can't do math.
- 2 A Okav.
- 3 Q So was it five months?
- 4 A Yeah, it was in October.
- 5 Q Okay.
- 6 A Yeah, I was not working at the time. If I had work, it
- 7 was through those attorneys that I listed earlier doing
- 8 research and writing, that kind of work as it came
- 9 about. I think I did maybe one or two doc review
- 10 projects that came around because it was available to
- 11 me, but for the most part I did not.
- 12 Q Okay. Whose idea was it that you resigned, the
- 13 employers or your own?
- 14 A I can't answer that.
- 15 Q The -- didn't you collect unemployment?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q How did you collect unemployment if you were resigned
- 18 from PharmaCo?
- 19 A That's just -- when I called unemployment and they said
- 20 to do -- I gave them the information of the
- 21 circumstances with PharmaCo, and that's just how it
- 22 went.
- 23 Q So you were able to tell unemployment the
- 24 circumstances --
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q It's dated January 23, 2020. Do you see that?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Okay. This says that you did not resign from PharmaCo,
- 5 but you were fired.
- 6 A Okay.
- 7 Q Is that what you told them?
- 8 A I don't recall if that's what happened. I really
- 9 don't.
- 10 Q Well, when you got this in the mail, this went to you
- at your Orchard lake address in West Bloomfield, right?
- 12 A When did this go?
- 13 Q Mailed to you January 23, 2020.
- 14 A Yeah, I don't recall this document. I really don't.
- 15 Q When did benefits start?
- 16 A I don't recall it. It would -- you'd have to look at
- 17 the sheet. I don't remember.
- 18 Q So when you received communications from the State of
- 19 Michigan that said PharmaCo, separating employer fired,
- 20 did you ever file any written objection to tell the
- 21 unemployment agency that they had it wrong? That you
- 22 actually weren't fired, you resigned?
- 23 A I believe I told them that I resigned from the
- 24 beginning. I did say that I believe. I can't recall
- 25 because of the time it's been. I remember being on

Job 20530 42..45

Page 42	Page 44
1 unemployment for a short period of time, but I don't	1 Q Okay, got it. So the work that you were doing for
2 recall the conversation or the details that I had with	2 Kelly Services, was it only legal work?
3 the unemployment agent at that time.	3 A Doc review.
4 I remember that it was something that took a while	4 Q Doc review related to legal matters or something
5 to get situated. I do remember that, but I don't	5 A Yes.
6 recall everything that happened in that conversation,	6 Q else? Okay.
7 or what was said, or how they put things in there. I	7 And I have here in your resume you did that from
8 pay no attention to what they put in this information	8 July of '17 to May of '19; is that correct?
9 here because I just really just didn't.	9 A Yes.
10 Q Do you understand the penalties for	10 Q And was that full time?
11 A I	11 A No, it was it was a two-week project, stop.
12 Q reporting false statements	12 Two-week project, stop. Then I go three, four weeks
13 A I didn't report a false statement	13 maybe sometimes without a project, then they'd call me
14 Q hold on, hold on.	14 back for a project. It was sporadic work.
15 Do you understand the penalties for reporting	15 Q Was it full time when you were working?
16 falsely to the Unemployment Insurance Agency?	16 A Yes.
17 A Yes.	17 Q Do you remember what you made annually?
18 Q Okay. The was there a particular agent at the	18 A No.
19 Unemployment Insurance Agency that you remember	19 Q For PharmaCo, what were you making?
20 speaking to?	20 A 65,000 a year.
21 A No.	21 Q Any benefits?
22 Q Do you remember writing any letters or giving any	22 A Yes.
23 written documentation other than this that came to you?	23 Q What benefits?
24 A I don't recall.	24 A Health insurance
25 Q Do you remember receiving any other notices other than	25 Q Did that include vision and dental?
Page 43  1 your weekly benefit checks from the Unemployment	Page 45
<ol> <li>your weekly benefit checks from the Unemployment</li> <li>Insurance Agency?</li> <li>A I don't recall.</li> <li>Q Okay. And you don't remember writing a letter, though,</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>1 A vision and dental.</li> <li>2 Q Any other benefits?</li> <li>3 A That's it.</li> <li>4 Q Any paid time off, paid vacations, paid holidays?</li> </ul>
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Job 20530 46..49

Page 46	Page 48
1 A There was one other person that was there, but I think	1 answer that one either.
2 she just started working in a different area of the	2 Q Okay.
3 company.	3 A I think that's in the agreement where I can't disclose
4 Q What was her name?	4 a lot of this stuff.
5 A Julia I don't remember Oh, Nunez, N-U-N-E-Z. I	5 Q You can't disclose things that you complained about?
6 think that's how you spell her name. Yes.	6 A I can't disclose those things.
7 Q Do you know if she's still there?	7 Q Okay. But those things did occur?
8 A She is not.	8 A I am not going to disclose yes or no, or say yes or no
9 Q How about Katrina Cotton, is she still there?	9 that those things occurred.
10 A She is not.	10 Q Okay.
11 Q How do you know that?	11 MS. BRAULT: I'm just going to place an
12 A Katrina?	12 objection too for the record that you're requesting
13 Q From either one of them.	13 proprietary information that is subject to a protective
14 A I just from other people have told me she they	14 agreement or an NDA about PharmaCo's policies and
15 are not there anymore.	15 procedures, and that's the basis for the objection.
16 Q And who do you still talk to that worked with you at	16 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
17 PharmaCo?	17 Q The at any point did you provide any severance
18 A None of the people that I work with at PharmaCo that I	18 letter or other notice from PharmaCo to the
19 talked to I don't talk to anybody at PharmaCo	19 Unemployment Insurance Agency?
20 anymore.	20 A I don't recall. I don't remember. I'd have to I
21 Q Who do you talk to that you worked with at PharmaCo?	21 don't remember if that happened or not. I remember
22 A I've talked to Katrina Cotton. That's it.	22 speaking to an agent regarding my case. It's possible
23 Q Okay. When's the last time that you talked to Katrina?	23 I've provided it. I don't know.
24 A It's been a couple of months.	24 Q Were you asked whether there was any severance package?  25 A I don't remember.
25 Q Where does Katrina live? In Michigan?	25 A 1 don't remember.
Page 47	Page 49
1 A Yes.	Page 49  1 Q If you would have been asked if there was a severance
1 A Yes.	1 Q If you would have been asked if there was a severance
<ul><li>1 A Yes.</li><li>2 Q Do you know what city?</li></ul>	<ul><li>1 Q If you would have been asked if there was a severance</li><li>2 package, would you have provided that information to</li></ul>
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1 A Yes. 2 Q Do you know what city? 3 A Shelby Township, Clinton Township, I believe. 4 Q Do you know where she's working? 5 A I don't know the name of the company. 6 Q Do you know the circumstances that led her to leave 7 PharmaCo? 8 A I can't I don't know. 9 Q Did she leave before or after you? 10 A After. 11 Q So that wouldn't be subject to any agreement that you 12 have with PharmaCo, right? 13 A I don't know why she left. 14 Q Okay. You never asked her? 15 A I I don't recall asking her that question. You'd 16 have to talk to her about that. I don't know. 17 Q How about Julia? Did you ever ask Julia why she left? 18 A I don't talk to Julia. 19 Q Have you since you left PharmaCo? 20 A No. 21 Q The did you, while employed at PharmaCo, issue any 22 written request to modify your job duties or any	1 Q If you would have been asked if there was a severance 2 package, would you have provided that information to 3 the insurance agency? 4 A If I had to provide something of that nature, I would 5 have let Katrina know who's the HR person at PharmaCo 6 because I believe that's the conditions with that. If 7 I have to disclose something like that for that 8 particular issue of unemployment, I would have had to 9 let them know that that was what was happening. 10 Q Do you remember having to do that? 11 A I don't I don't remember. 12 Q Okay. 13 A I can't recall offhand what happened with the 14 circumstances surrounding that. 15 Q The unemployment determination letter that we've marked 16 as Exhibit 1 approves you for unemployment benefits for 17 a one-year period. 18 A Uh-huh. 19 Q How long did you receive those benefits? 20 A For PharmaCo as in? Is that what you're asking for 21 that? Okay. 22 Q Yes, this particular account.

Job 20530 58..61

Page 60

Pa	ae	5

- 1 either self-employed or by someone else, and if you say
- 2 yes you disclose exactly how much you got paid that
- 3 work. I disclosed that when I certified every time I
- 4 worked. If I worked for contract for one of the
- 5 attorneys, I disclosed how much I got paid --
- 6 Q And so --
- 7 A -- and that money was deducted.
- 8 Q So we'll see that in your portal entries?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 MS. BADALAMENTI: Okay. All right. Let's
- 11 mark this as Exhibit 2 just so we have a clean record.
- 12 (Exhibit 2 marked for identification)
- 13 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
- 14 Q That is a resume that we've marked as Exhibit 2 that
- 15 you produced to us. Have you updated that resume at
- 16 any point since producing it to us?
- 17 A I believe I have added the Consilio onto it. Yes.
- 18 MS. BADALAMENTI: Okay. So we'll ask for a
- 19 copy of the updated resume, please.
- 20 Can you make a note of that?
- 21 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:
- 22 Q Okay. When you took the position with PharmaCo, had
- you worked for any other cannabis employer prior to
- 24 that?
- 25 A No.

- 1 Q Who prescribes it?
- 2 A The vitamin D?
- 3 Q Yep.
- 4 A Dr. Schoeffer. He's my internist/thyroid doctor.
- 5 Q Can you spell it?
- 6 A S-C-H-O-E-F-F-E-R.
- 7 Q In what city?
- 8 A Farmington.
- 9 Q Okay. Who prescribes the Adipex?
- 10 A Dr. Shannon Webster.
- 11 Q Where is Dr. Webster located?
- 12 A Southfield.
- 13 Q How long have you been on Adipex?
- 14 A I don't recall when I started. It's been an off-and-on
- 15 thing that I've taken Adipex.
- 16 Q For weight loss or for something else?
- 17 A It is for weight loss, and I need to correct you.
- 18 Schoeffer's office is in Southfield. My apologies.
- 19 Q Okay. What type of doctor is Dr. Webster?
- 20 A She is my primary care doctor.
- 21 Q Have you received an Adipex prescription from anybody
- 22 besides Dr. Webster?
- 23 A No.
- 24 Q The metformin, what do you take that for?
- 25 A I have PCOS.

Page 59

- 1 Q What sort of training did you receive in the position
- 2 at PharmaCo?
- 3 A I didn't receive -- well, let me think. Very little.
- 4 I only received training as far as how to use the MRA
- 5 portal to upload the applications, and what is required
- 6 to be in the applications from Julia Nunez. She showed
- 7 me the process of what paperwork needed to be done, and
- 8 showed me a sample of what needed to be produced for
- 9 them, and gave me access to what she was looking for,
- 10 and what the state was looking for. And after that I
- 11 did the rest of the stuff on my own.
- 12 Q Do you currently take any medications on a regular
- 13 basis?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q What do you take?
- 16 A I take Synthroid. Do you need the dosage amount?
- 17 Q No.
- 18 A Take Synthroid. I take vitamin D. I take Adipex. I
- 19 take Metformin. I take trazodone. I take Protonix,
- 20 and I believe that is it currently that I am taking.
- 21 Q When did you start taking Synthroid?
- 22 A I've been taking Synthroid since I was 14, 15 years
- 23 old. I believe at 14 years old.
- 24 Q And vitamin D?
- 25 A Vitamin D probably about four or five months ago.

- 1 Q What's that?
- 2 A Polycystic ovarian syndrome.
- B Q Okay. And how long have you been taking metformin?
- 4 A For -- it's been about a year I believe now.
- 5 Q And who prescribes that?
- 6 A Dr. Shannon Webster.
- 7 Q Trazodone, what do you take that for?
- 8 A I take that for my anxiety.
- 9 Q How long have you been taking that?
- 10 A I've been taking it for about -- I want to say a month
- 11 now. A month or so.
- 12 Q Who prescribes it?
- 13 A Dr. Harris.
- 14 Q Where's Dr. Harris located?
- 15 A He's at New Oakland, I believe, Family Counseling
- 16 Center. I believe that's the name of it. He's my
- 17 psychiatrist.
- 18 Q And when did you start seeing Dr. Harris?
- 19 A I started seeing him -- it was 30 days ago I started my

Toll Free: 844.730.4066

- 20 first session with him.
- 21 Q Prior to Dr. Harris had you treated with anyone for
- 22 anxiety or depression or any sort of mental health
- 23 care?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q With whom?

Page 61

Page 66

### SHAMARA BOINES vs JARS HOLDINGS, LLC BOINES, SHAMARA 10/11/2022

Job 20530 66..69

Page 68

Page 69

Δ	No.		

- 2 Q Any substance abuse hospitalizations?
- 3 A No.

1

- 4 Q All right. So your employment at JARS, March to July
- of 2020, tell me what -- what position were you hired
- 6
- 7 A Compliance officer.
- 8 Q What did you tell JARS about your prior employment
- 9 history?
- 10 A Can you be specific?
- 11 Q Yeah. What did you -- where did you tell them that you
- 12 had been working immediately before taking that
- 13 position?
- 14 A PharmaCo.
- 15 Q Did you tell them that you were on unemployment?
- 16 A No.
- 17 Q Did you tell them that you had been -- that you had
- 18 resigned or been fired, as the case may be, from
- 19 PharmaCo in October and actually not working for five
- 20 months --
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q -- at that point?
- 23 Did you tell them that you had a confidentiality
- 24 agreement with PharmaCo?
- 25 A I told them that I couldn't discuss what I did in work

- 1 terminated on this one.
- 2 Q And it wouldn't have said that on the one that you
- provided? 3
- 4 A Correct.
- 5 Q Okay. Why not?
- 6 A Because I was -- I wouldn't put JARS on here. I wasn't
- 7 working for them. You asked me about JARS. I wouldn't
- 8 put my -- that I worked for JARS on there.
- 9 Q Okay. I'm going to show you another version of a
- 10 resume that was produced in discovery. Can you tell me
- 11 by looking at this document when this one was created?
- 12 A I don't know when it was created, but this looks like 13 the one I sent to JARS. I can't tell you the date of
- 14 when it was created or what time frame it was.
- 15
- MS. BRAULT: Do you have a copy, please?
- 16 MS. BADALAMENTI: Yep.
  - THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- MS. BADALAMENTI: Okay. We'll mark it as 3. 18
  - (Exhibit 3 marked for identification)
- 20 BY MS. BADALAMENTI:

17

19

- 21 Q Exhibit 3 changes the title from Exhibit 2 of what
- 22 position you actually held at PharmaCo. I think. Oh,
- 23 no, sorry, compliance specialist.
- 24 Other than adding in the JARS employment, were
- 25 there any other changes to this document that you

Page 67

- 1 at PharmaCo for, you know, business reasons as well,
- 2 which is true. There are trade secrets that I can't
- 3 discuss of how things go. That guestion was asked in
- 4 the interview about certain policies or things that
- they do there, and I told him I couldn't disclose it. 6 Q So my question is whether or not you told them that you
- 7 had a nondisclosure term in the severance agreement
- 8 that you had with PharmaCo?
- 9 A No.
- 10 Q Did you tell them that there was a severance agreement
- or resignation --
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q -- agreement of any sort?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q Okay. How about the contract work, what did you tell
- 16 them about your contract legal work? Did you tell them
- you were still doing it or --17
- 18 A They didn't ask me. I don't recall them asking me
- 19 about that.
- 20 Q Did you provide a resume?
- 21 A Yes, I did.
- 22 Q Was it this resume that I put in front of you or
- 23 something different?
- 24 A This looks like the one I provided them. I'm not sure.
- It's probably not because it says the date that I was

- 1 remember making before you sent it to JARS?
- 2 A I don't recall making any different -- any changes
- other than this. I don't -- I don't believe I did.
- 4 Q So one thing that you weren't sure about was your
- 5 employment at LegalEase. You thought that that ended
- 6 in May because you couldn't do the work while you were
- 7 working at PharmaCo, but I notice here in Exhibit 3 it
- 8 actually says LegalEase October 2017 to present.
- 9 A Where?
- 10 Q Page 2 of this document up at the top. So at least
- when you sent this out you were still working at 11
- 12 LegalEase; is that right?
- 13 A Yeah, I don't remember -- I probably just didn't update
- 14 it. It's not -- it's probably an oversight. I -- I
- 15 didn't do it intentionally to say that I was still
- 16 working with them. It just was something because --
- 17 I -- I didn't do it intentionally. I didn't know.
- 18 Q So -- but it is your belief that you were not still
- 19 working --
- 20 A I don't believe I was --
- 21 Q -- for LegalEase?
- 22 A -- yeah, I don't believe I was. I can't remember. As
- I stated before, I can't recall the dates that I 23
- 24 stopped doing actual projects for LegalEase.
- 25 Q Okay.

Job 20530 110..113

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- 1 talked and discussed about washing hands and wearing
- 2 masks and social distancing. Because we were in an
- 3 office where it was a building where other companies
- 4 were in it, and so they wanted to make sure because
- 5 there was people coming in and out of the building and
- 6 people were safe. I think everybody chimed in on that
- 7 particular matter on what needed to be done and what we
- 8 were going to do.
- 9 Q Was there general agreement on -- on return to the
- 10 office protocol?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And were you in charge of putting that agreement on
- 13 what the protocols would be into writing in some way
- 14 for corporate?
- 15 A For corporate, I can't recall. I think -- if I recall
- 16 correctly, I created just a blanket, like, protocol for
- 17 COVID-19, like a training protocol I did, but I don't
- 18 remember if it was one specific for corporate. I think
- 19 with corporate we just kind of understood these were
- 20 the things we were going to do.
- 21 Q Okay. And the -- when you were working from home, were
- there progress reports or anything that you had to
- 23 provide to update the team on what you're working on?
- 24 A We did that every Wednesday, and then I responded by
- 25 emails. I gave them emails about what I was working

- Page 112

  time frame, I would, you know, write that down and give
- 2 that to them, and then I would email a draft here.
- 3 Here's a draft of this you were looking for. Here's
- 4 this you were looking for.
- 5 Q Okay. You said that there were also times even when
- 6 you were working remotely where you had to go to an
- 7 inspection at a facility, right?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Okay. Did -- did any of those inspections go poorly?
- 10 Did they fail?
- 11 A There were two that I recall in specific that didn't
- 12 pass.
- 13 Q Okay. Which two were those?
- 14 A I believe it was Lansing and Owosso that didn't pass.
- 15 Q And what is the time frame? Do you remember what
- 16 month
- 17 A I don't remember the month.
- 18 Q And why did they fail?
- 19 A They failed because of paperwork that Mandy was
- 20 supposed to submit was not submitted properly. It
- 21 wasn't because of the field work that I did, the
- 22 inspection part, the field inspection.
- 23 Q So what's -- what paperwork specifically was submitted
- 24 incorrectly?
- 25 A She incorrectly submitted a floor plan. So a floor

#### Page 111

- 1 on, and when I finished them I kept communication. If
- 2 they gave me a list and said I need you to create this
- 3 kind of policy, I will work on the policy and finish
- 4 it. Give them a draft of it to review depending on
- 5 who -- who it was. We might have a meeting after to
- discuss. I like this, take this out, move this around,
   but I kept an open line of communication of what I was
- 8 working on. Anybody can call me and ask me what I was
- 9 doing, and I can tell them and show them.
- 10 Q Okay. So the -- you said we had those discussions on
- 11 Wednesdays. Was there some actual, like, written
- 12 agenda or progress report or something like that that
- 13 you were supposed to provide before those Zoom
- 14 meetings?
- 15 A Sometimes we had an agenda, and it depended on -- I
- 16 don't remember who would create it or what we would
- 17 discuss. Sometimes it was Raymond and Kelsey that will
- 18 create something, but generally it was like a round
- 19 robin type of thing. Raymond would go and say, well,
- 20 Shamara, what are you working on, and I'd go and give
- 21 detailed information.
- 22 And he would tell me, okay, so can you get this by
- 23 Wednesday. Can you give me this by Thursday. If other
- 24 people needed something from me at that time, I would
- 25 provide it as well. If they needed it in a specific

- Page 113

  1 plan must be actually true to what is happening, and
- 2 that's something I didn't have access to. I didn't
- 3 even have access to upload the applications. So I
- 4 submitted the floor plans -- she submitted the floor
- 5 plans, and they did construction, and when you do
- 6 construction you have to update that floor plan and
- 7 send it over to MRA, and she did not do that. I was
- 8 under the assumption that part was taken care of by
- 9 her.
- 10 Q Okay. And so the floor plans go to MRA. I thought
- 11 that you said that you were the one that was dealing
- 12 with the regulatory agencies?
- 13 A That's correct for the field inspection --
- 14 Q Okay.
- 15 A -- but like the application process, she handled that.

- 16 Q Okay.
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Are you preparing any of the documents that go into
- 19 that application?
- 20 A Not for JARS, no.
- 21 Q Okay. Did you do that for somebody else?
- 22 A I did that for PharmaCo.
- 23 Q Okay. And not for JARS?
- 24 A No.
- 25 Q At any point did you do that for JARS?

Job 20530 166..169

Page 168 Page 166 That would be the opportunity in the industry that 1 1 what was what. I'm sure they kept their own records. 2 you wanted to go into, right? 2 I don't know, but I filed taxes on it with a 1099. 3 Q Did -- with each one of them -- and I don't want to go 3 A Correct. 4 Q Okay. And you tell him, God bless, right? 4 through every single name. I remember a few, 5 Α 5 Saperstein --6 A Uh-huh. 6 Q All right. Was there any response to that? 7 A No. 7 Q -- Morgan --8 Q Okay. Were you approved for unemployment? 8 A -- yes. Q -- Vasquez (ph) --9 A 9 10 A Yes. 10 Q What did you receive, do you remember? 11 A I do not because it was in the middle of the pandemic 11 Q -- did they pay you by check or did anyone pay you with so the amount was different. I don't remember. 12 12 13 Q Okay. So let's just mark this. I think it's 8. 13 A Vasquez I just started this year so I haven't gotten a 14 Did I give you one? 14 1099 with her. I just literally started working with 15 And then I think I'm done, and I'll let you --15 her. They did Cash App or Venmo or they would just --16 MR. SARCONI: We're going to take a break --16 I had a QuickBooks set up so they can just hit the pay 17 MS. BADALAMENTI: Take a break, yeah. Here's 17 button and pay through a credit card. 18 eight. 18 Q Okay. Homeland Security. I think you testified that 19 MR. SARCONI: -- for lunch as long as Darcie 19 you externed with Homeland Security; is that correct? 20 would like, and then we'll return for a brief --20 A Yes. 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. We're going off the 21 Q Okay. Did you -- after completing the externship and 22 22 after sticking around, did you ever inquire about record at 1:23 p.m. 23 (Break in proceeding taken from 23 employment with them once you finished your master's? 24 1:23 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.) 24 A No. I had to get a license to do that. 25 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record 25 Q As -- I'm sorry, you need --Page 167 Page 169 1 at 2:30 p.m. 1 A As an attorney --2 MR. SARCONI: Good afternoon, Ms. Boines. My 2 Q -- oh, okay. 3 name is James Sarconi. I represent Raymond Abro in 3 A -- yeah. Yes. 4 this lawsuit. Is it all right if I call you Shamara? 4 Q There wasn't any other -- were there any positions 5 THE WITNESS: Sure. 5 within Homeland Security that you were interested in 6 MR. SARCONI: Okay. I'm going to ask you 6 that didn't require a P number? 7 some questions. The same rules, the same format 7 A Not that I recall. 8 applies to my questions as were conducted earlier. 8 Q You were interviewed twice by JARS prior to being 9 Most important is the one where we try to not speak 9 offered employment; is that correct? 10 over each other, and I'm going to try to pat myself on 10 A Yes. 11 the back and do a better job than Raechel is with not 11 Q Okay. How far apart were those interviews, do you 12 remember? speaking over you. 12 13 A I do not. 13 14 EXAMINATION 14 Q Okay. During those interviews were you asked questions 15 BY MR. SARCONI: 15 about your former employment with PharmaCo? 16 Q Earlier we talked about -- or you talked with Raechel 16 A Yes. 17 about contract work that was done with various Okay. And did you tell JARS that you left PharmaCo 17 18 attorneys. In each one of those instances were you because you were unhappy with all the city and state 18 19 issued a 1099 by -- by those lawyers? 19 visits you had to make? 20 A No. 20 A I don't recall the reason. 21 Q Okay. 21 Q Okay. Did they ask you? Do you recall them asking you 22 A I -- do you want me finish? 22 a specific reason? 23 A I don't recall the reason. 23 Q Yes. 24 A Okay. So some of the lawyers did not give me the 1099. 24 Did you receive a termination letter from PharmaCo? However, I filed the taxes on them. I kept a count of 25 A I don't think I can answer that question. I think I

Job 20530 170..173

Page 172 Page 170 1 not she complained about anything to Secret Service, 1 can't. 2 Q The answer is you're --2 but beyond that I think then we're getting into sort of 3 3 A I can't answer that question. The discussion -proprietary processes and procedures. 4 Q For clarity, it's just that you can't and will not, 4 MR. SARCONI: Okay. that's all I want to get clear with you. 5 MS. BRAULT: So ... 6 MR. SARCONI: I'll take it. 6 A I will not answer that question. 7 Q Okay. 7 BY MR. SARCONI: 8 MS. BRAULT: I'm sorry, what was the 8 Q I'll ask that question. 9 Did you complain to the Secret Service while you question? I was --9 10 MR. SARCONI: If she was issued a termination 10 were employed at PharmaCo? 11 letter by PharmaCo. 11 A No. 12 MS. BRAULT: Yeah. 12 Q Okay. Did you send any emails while you were employed at PharmaCo that had to be retracted for any reason? 13 BY MR. SARCONI: 13 14 Q While you were employed with Pharmaco, did you contact 14 A I don't know. the Secret Service for any reason? 15 Q Okay. Did you tell HR at PharmaCo that you were fired 15 16 A Can I have a second? Confer with --16 for being black? 17 Q There's a question pending so she can provide an 17 A No. objection --18 Q Who's Julia Nunez? Do you know that person? 18 19 A -- I don't know the answer to that. I need to take a 19 A Yes. 20 break. 20 Q Who is she? 21 Q Okay. 21 A I worked with her at PharmaCo. 22 A Okay. 22 Q Do you know what her title was? 23 MR. SARCONI: That's fine. We'll take a 23 A Yeah. I think it was another compliance specialist, or 24 break. 24 it might have been director of compliance when I left. 25 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record at 25 I don't know. Page 171 Page 173 1 3 -- 2:34 p.m. 1 Q Okay. Do you know if PharmaCo is still called 2 PharmaCo? Does it have a new name or something? 2 (Break in proceeding from 3 2:34 p.m. to 2:37 p.m.) 3 A I believe it's Red White & Bloom. 4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the record MR. SARCONI: Okay. What number were we on? 4 5 at 2:37 p.m. 5 MR. PETRUS: Nine. 6 MS. BRAULT: Okay. I just want to -- I sort 6 MR. SARCONI: Thank you. We'll mark this as 7 7 of am making a belated objection and ask for a Exhibit 9, Darcie. We can make that the witness copy. 8 8 clarification, and somewhat by way of explanation. (Exhibit 9 marked for identification) 9 Ms. Boines is sort of struggling with what 9 MR. SARCONI: Let the record reflect that I 10 she can or cannot say legally because of the agreement 10 placed in front of the witness what we're marking as Deposition Exhibit No. 9. Two pages at the bottom 11 that she signed and she agreed to and, you know, she 11 12 12 Bates stamped ending in 585 and PL586. can't speak to the circumstances surrounding her 13 BY MR. SARCONI: 13 departure for PharmaCo, and she can't speak to policies 14 and procedures that could be considered proprietary 14 Q Shamara, take a minute, obviously, to take a look at 15 with respect to PharmaCo particularly in light of the 15 this, and then I'll ask you a question. 16 fact that it's a competitor to JARS. 16 A Yes. 17 But I think a question that you could ask and 17 Q Have you seen this declaration before? 18 that she could answer would be did you -- are you 18 A Yes. 19 asking her if she complained to Secret Service or if 19 Q Okay. Did you assist in preparing the declaration that 20 she had some contact with Secret Service? we're looking at it as Exhibit 9? 20 21 MR. SARCONI: Well --21 A No. 22 MS. BRAULT: Or both? 22 Q Okay. Were you present when Katrina Cotton signed this 23 MR. SARCONI: -- both. Both. 23 declaration? 24 MS. BRAULT: I think she can say that she --24 A No. 25 25 Q Did you request that Katrina Cotton sign this I think she can answer the question about whether or

Job 20530 174..177

Page 177

Page 174 declaration?

2 A No. I don't recall asking her to sign the declaration,

3 no.

4 Q Okay. Did you have any conversations with Ms. Cotton

5 discussing the -- the statements made in this

6 declaration?

7 MS. BRAULT: I'm just going to place an

8 objection to form. There are a lot of statements in

9 there.

21

10 BY MR. SARCONI:

11 Q Did you -- that's fair.

12 Did you have any discussion with Shamara -- I'm

13 sorry, Shamara. So let's strike all that.

14 Did you have any discussions with Katrina about

15 whether or not she would be signing a declaration to be

16 used in this lawsuit?

17 A Yes, after she agreed to it.

18 Q Okay. And what did you discuss with her?

19 A She just told me that she had spoken with my attorneys,

20 and that she was going to write something. And that

was the pretty much the extent of it the last time I

22 talked to her about it.

23 Q Did you have any independent understanding as to why

she was writing or signing a declaration?

25 A I knew why she was signing and writing the declaration,

Page 176

1 believe Raymond gave me a copy of an old handbook

2 for -- at the time it was known as D3 -- now JARS

3 Detroit to look at. I think that was one of them, and

4 there might have been another facility he gave me to

5 look at the language and the things that he wanted in

6 the new employee handbook and I used that.

7 Q Okay. When you began working for JARS, did you have

8 any understanding as to whether someone had been

9 performing compliance work at JARS before you got

10 there?

11 A Very little. I know that there was someone before. I

12 don't know the reasons of why that person left or who

13 that person was. I think I heard they went to a

14 different competitor, but that was it. Very little was

15 told of me -- to me rather.

16 Q How did you come to be introduced or first interact

17 with Taft, and in particular Heather Jackson?

18 A It started with John Kenny, who is also an associate at

19 Taft. I had to interact with him as far as -- I think

20 it was an NDA or some sort, or an agreement that

21 Raymond needed written. And so when Raymond would give

22 me tasks such as that -- because I'm not a licensed

23 attorney -- I would just kind of put what he wanted on

24 a piece of paper very neatly, and then I discussed it

25 with John Kenny and explain to him, listen, I'm not a

Page 175

2

7

15

16

1 what it was about, briefly, but I didn't know all of

2 the contents. No.

3 Q And what was your understanding of why she was signing

4 a declaration?

5 A As far as my employment at PharmaCo, if I had any

6 issues because she was the HR person, and that was

7 about all I know that was going to be discussed. I

8 wasn't there when she had the conversations with my

9 attornevs.

10 Q Okay. And Katrina was the HR, the head of HR, at the

time that you were working at PharmaCo?

12 A Yes.

14

16

13 Q I think you testified that you assisted in the

preparation of a human resource -- or strike that.

15 An employee handbook for JARS; is that accurate?

Assisted in the preparation of a --

17 A Yes.

18 Q -- new employee handbook?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. Did you start from a particular template?

21 A I believe I had an old employee handbook of my own from

22 somewhere else that I was -- given to me that was just

23 sitting somewhere in my own arsenal just to see the

24 format of an employee handbook. So I knew, like, the

25 process of what goes where to just get an idea. And I

1 licensed attorney. I can't give legal advice or

anything, but what I can do is put the information that

3 Raymond wants for this particular document and I will

4 email it to you. You can do the edits and put the

5 legal information that's supposed to be in it, and I

6 will work with you to make sure we get the document how

it's supposed to be. And it started with him with

8 those documents.

When I needed assistance on the employee handbook,
 that was when John Kenny said that we needed to go and

11 talk to Heather Jackson because she was the employee --

12 person that knew employment law, and was the expert on

13 that. So that's how I started working with her.

14 Q Okay. And so -- or strike that.

Were you given Taft's information or did you seek

out Taft as the attorney to consult with?

17 A I sent the email that I needed assistance with the

18 employee handbook, if I recall correctly, to John

19 Kenny, and then he copied Heather Jackson. So maybe

20 they had a sidebar discussion about Shamara's going to

21 be contacting you because of the employee handbook that

22 needs to be done. And then he began to Cc her on that,

and then eventually it was he was Cc'd, but he didn't

24 say very much on the -- on the matter. It was mainly

25 her

4

5

6

7

### SHAMARA BOINES vs JARS HOLDINGS, LLC BOINES, SHAMARA 10/11/2022

Job 20530 178..181

		Page 178
Q	Okay. And I apologize. I think my attempt to be	•

2 artful my question is missing the mark, and so this is

3 on me.

1

8

21

Did JARS already have an existing relationship
 with Taft or did you on behalf of Taft -- I'm sorry --

6 you on behalf of JARS hire Taft?

7 A They had a --

(Indiscernible crosstalk.)

9 THE WITNESS: -- oh, they had an existing

10 relationship.

11 BY MR. SARCONI:

12 Q Okay. So someone over at JARS said here's our attorney

13 to talk to on things that are -- that require an

14 attorney?

15 A Right.

16 Q Okay. And who was that? Was that Raymond or someone

17 else at the office?

18 A No. I believe, if I'm correct, the information came

19 from -- he went by the name Junior. I guess his name

20 is Hani Kassab. He's one of the other individuals that

handles JARS, and that was someone that he knew or had

22 been working with.

23 Q Okay. Did you ever get into any heated arguments with

24 any coworkers at JARS?

25 A Not that I recall.

Page 180

1 guessing or asking a colleague. And it was from my

2 understanding Taft's office is in Illinois. Those are

3 different rules and regulations.

So she said she had just asked someone that was familiar with cannabis law, and she really wasn't researching to see if the policies or the things that MRA had were actually still being followed, or if it

8 was new, or if we had to follow it.

9 Q Okay. Did Raymond give you any specific feedback or
 10 instruction after those conversations with Kelsey about

11 Heather Jackson's insistence on putting MRA policies or

12 inaccurate MRA policies into the handbook?

13 A He just told me to stick to the MRA policy information.

14 I remember that being one of the things. He -- he

15 really just didn't want to be bothered with having an

16 attorney look over that particular area because she had

17 already given me inaccurate information. He preferred

18 that I work on it, and if I had questions to still call

19 MRA to verify.

20 Q Okay. COVID-19 policies. I believe -- and I don't

21 want to state what the testimony was or even what the

22 questioning was -- so we might have to go into it just

23 a little bit again. But I believe there's some

24 discussion about COVID-19 policies being a part of,

we'll say, MRA compliance if I understood the testimony

Page 179

- 1 Q Okay. Did you ever get into any heated arguments with
- 2 coworkers at PharmaCo?
- 3 A I don't recall heated arguments. It might be just
- 4 office disagreements, but nothing heated where -- you'd
- 5 have to define what you mean by heated.
- 6 Q Like yelling, screaming.
- 7 A Not that I recall.
- 8 Q Okay. Was there any specific discussion between you
- 9 and anyone else at JARS about Heather Jackson's
- 10 participation with the JARS employee handbook?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Other than what we've already talked about. What --
- 13 what you and Raechel talked about?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Okay. Can you tell me what those discussions were?
- 16 A It was with Kelsey Lang.
- 17 Q Okay. And what --
- 18 A I was getting very irritated with Ms. Jackson's
- 19 performance as far as continuously putting MRA policies
- 20 into the handbook that were either inaccurate or we had
- 21 already discussed with her, Raymond, and I on a
- 22 conference call that we did not want her to touch any
- 23 of the Michigan Regulatory Agency employee information
- for the purpose of -- she admitted to me that she
- 25 didn't know anything about it, and she was just

- Page 181 correctly. That you've got to comply with COVID-19
- 2 policies as part of what MRA wants to have done; is
- 3 that --
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q -- okay. And did you have any specific conversations
- 6 with anyone at JARS about obtaining assistance with
- 7 being compliant with COVID-19 policies separate and
- 8 distinct from complying with MRA?
- 9 A Assistance from -- I don't understand.
- 10 Q Hey, do we -- should we get outside legal counsel
- 11 because this is -- I mean, let's -- since the Spanish
- 12 flu. Right? We haven't had a pandemic since the
- 13 Spanish flu. So this is all new territory for
- 14 everybody in the state of Michigan and probably the
- 15 world. Was there any discussion about getting help
- 16 from outside legal counsel about how to handle these
- 17 executive orders specific to COVID-19?
- 18 A No.

21

- 19 Q Inspections. I think we had some testimony about
- 20 inspections. Did you go -- did a Mandy Garmo attend
  - inspections with you?
- 22 A She came with me on inspections.
- 23 Q Okay. How many inspections did you attend on behalf of

- 24 JARS?
- 25 A I think four, maybe five. I'm not sure --

Job 20530 230..233

Page 232

Page 233

Page 230

- 1 A I recall I may have assisted with one. Usually HR
- 2 handles those things, but I have assisted in helping
- 3 write one or write sections and portions of one.
- 4 Q Do you recall any specific?
- 5 A Which employer?
- 6 Q
- 7 A I believe it was PharmaCo.
- 8 Q Okay.
- 9 A PharmaCo I did.
- 10 Q I'm going to talk about noneconomic damages. In
- 11 response to interrogatories that were served on you by
- 12 JARS, question 6 asked if you experienced any injury or
- 13 illness in connection with the events of the lawsuit,
- 14 and we have the response here.
- 15 So first question is, it's your position that your
- 16 anxiety and depression has been since the termination,
- 17 and you attribute that to the termination by JARS?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q And then there's a reference to hypothyroidism.
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q That's a condition you have?
- 22 A Yes.

7

- 23 Q For a layperson, what is hypothyroidism?
- 24 A So hypothyroidism deals with the thyroid gland, and
- 25 it's basically -- it's not functioning like it's

- 1 issues that are heightened.
- 2 Q Okay. Have you gained an extreme amount of weight
- 3 since you were terminated by JARS?
- 4 A Yes. 15-some-odd pounds doesn't seem like a lot, but
- 5 it was enough to cause issues where I was having
- 6 complications with the hiatal hernia. That I had to
- 7 have another procedure to see if there was something
- 8 that I could do or it could be removed, and the final
- 9 issue was you have to lose weight and you need to do it
- 10 quickly.
- 11 Q Okay. Procedure, is that -- were you referring to an
- 12 endoscopy?
- 13 A Yeah. It wasn't an endoscopy. It was similar to that.
- 14 Basically a chip -- like microchip type of thing was
- 15 implanted into my stomach, and I had a device that I
- 16 kept near me for -- I think it was 24 or 48 hours, and
- 17 it monitored how my food digested to make sure it
- 18 didn't get stuck somewhere.
- 19 Q Have you had hypothyroidism before you came -- before
- 20 you went to go work for JARS?
- 21 A
- 22 Q Okay. When were you diagnosed with hypothyroidism?
- 23 A I was 14 years old.
- 24 Q Okay. You were living here in Michigan when you got
- 25 that diagnosis?

Page 231

- supposed to. The thyroid gland handles many different
- 1 2 aspects of the body, regulates everything from mental
- 3 to physical. So weight gain, weight loss, eating, and
- 4 there could be over 300 other illnesses that could be
- 5 associated with a thyroid or a thyroid that's out of
- 6 balance can be -- be caused.
  - So for mine I am hypo meaning my thyroid is in
- 8 overdrive, and so usually I have to take medicine to
- 9 speed it down. However, the condition can be
- 10 heightened where it will be out of -- my blood levels
- 11 will be out of whack if -- if there's an extreme like
- 12 stress or depression, that may happen. Some depression
- 13 happens, but if it's extreme the levels can be kind of
- 14 off, and I'll experience a lot of issues with that.
- 15 Q Okay, a lot of issues. Can you be more specific?
- 16 A Sure. So I could have memory issues. I can gain an
- 17 extreme amount of weight, and in gaining an extreme
- 18 amount of weight it seems like not a big deal.
- 19 However, as I stated before, I have a hiatal hernia,
- 20 and if I gain an extreme amount of weight with a hiatal
- 21 hernia I have problems digesting my food. And I will
- 22 wake up in the middle of night choking on, like, my own
- 23 vomit because it's like food that can't digest, or I
- 24 will not eat, or I will not eat enough. I will not be
- 25 able to eat enough. I will sleep a lot. There's other

- 1 A Yes.
- Do you recall the doctor that diagnosed you with
- hypothyroidism?
- 4 A Yes, Dr. Roderick Walker. He was at Oakland --
- 5 Q
- 6 A Yeah, Roderick. He was at Oakwood Hospital at the
- 7 time.
- 8 Q Okay.
- 10 Q Roderick Walker?

Yes.

11 A Yes.

9 A

- 12 Q Okay. And were you being treated at -- by Roderick
- Walker at that time with any particular medicine or --13
- 14 A I went to see him for a physical for -- I was a
- 15 cheerleader, and while he was doing the physical he
- 16 just happened to touch my neck, and saw that it was a
- 17 bulge that shouldn't have been there. No one knew. I
- 18 had symptoms when I was younger that my parents didn't
- 19 realize what it was because we didn't know we had a
- 20 history of it in the family.
- 21 He then referred me to another doctor, a
- 22 specialist in that area, and that's when they did tests
- 23 and discovered that I had a thyroid condition. And
- 24 they began to treat it with medication that did not
- 25 work, and then we went -- and I had a dosage of

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